

REMARKS

A Notice of Allowance was mailed on December 1, 2003 in the above-identified patent application. Applicant chooses not to pay the Issue Fee. Instead, Applicant files herewith a Request for Continued Examination. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-9, 23, 24, 26, 27, 32, 33, 35, 37-39, and 41-50 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-9, 26, 27, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 44, and 45 are amended. New claims 46-50 are added. Claims 10-22, 25, 28-31, 34, 36, and 40 were previously canceled. Applicant believes no new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 9, 26, 27, 32, 37, 41, 44, and 45 are amended to more clearly recite the features of the present invention. Newly added claims 46-50 recite features similar to those recited in the previously allowed claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and a new Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

No fee is due by this filing. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4532.

Respectfully submitted,
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